Mushrooming Madrasas on Indo-Nepal Border

221. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a mushrooming growth of Madrasas along the Indo-Nepal Border, which is posing a serious problem of cross-border terrorism;

(b) whether the porous nature of Indo-Nepal border has helped in the increase of infiltration of terrorists, arms and ammunition and explosives etc.; and

(c) if so, the action plan of Government to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) While the Government is aware that the number of madarsas in the areas close to the Indo-Nepal border may have shown an increase; however, it is difficult to arrive at a general conclusion, on the basis of reports available, that these institutions pose a serious problem of cross border terrorism. The Government is fully aware of the need for proper surveillance along the international borders to check any activities prejudicial to the country.

(b) There have been some instances where Pak based terrorists outfits sponsored terrorists have taken advantage of the porous Indo-Nepal border.

(c) In order to strengthen the security of the Indo-Nepal border the Shashatra Seema Bal (SSB) has been designated as the force to guard this border. 20 new battalions of SSB have been approved to further enhance the security of the Indo-Nepal border. Security concerns are also discussed with the Government of Nepal in bilateral mechanism established by both the countries for this purpose.

Assistance for combating Naxal threats

222. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Naxal threats in some States have proved to be a hindrance in getting foreign investments in these States;